

Dear HSS Framework,

I really enjoyed reading the revision for grade eleven. I love the modernization of the standards. The introduction itself shows how modern the entire revision is. It discusses being a modern American as well as the diverse population. It reviews equal rights but dives deeper including homosexuals and transgenders. It includes more information regarding the economy which I feel is important for eleventh graders since they will be taking government and economics the following year. I love that each unit includes culture, religion, literature, art, music, drama, architecture, and mass media. I think this will help parents better understand why their children are learning some of this information. I know there has been a huge backlash regarding learning Islam in World History. But if they understand religion will be discussed in each unit maybe it will make them feel better and know their children are getting a well-rounded curriculum and that we aren't there as teachers to promote any one religion in particular.

Some things specifically I liked seeing were an emphasis on reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. We all know this younger generation is lacking speaking skills since they are so used to texting. I also liked the discussion on vertical and horizontal integration of businesses. I found this interesting and do not remember learning it myself when I was in school. I love the inclusion of homosexuality and transgender discussions throughout different parts of the chapter. Some parents might have an issue with this but this is the time we are living in. It's important to discuss what it is and when did it begin or become more outspoken. I specially love the entire bold section on lines 1359-1370. All very important things for students to know. It's interesting to see the modernization of immigration and diversity talk as well. I graduated high school in 2003 so don't feel this was discussed at all. It's important for students to understand not only the past and why things are the way they are but to better understand the world they live in today.

I noticed a huge emphasis on cause and effect throughout the chapter. Which is a great historical thinking skill for students to learn and understand. There was also an emphasis on globalization and change over time which is also important. I loved all the teacher examples and think it is a great idea to include these. This will be really helpful for all teachers but especially helpful some of these teacher that have been working a long time and aren't used to this new common core idea and the different way of teaching. I also loved the focus on looking back and seeing what has changed and what hasn't changed regarding different topics.

I look forward to seeing some of these revisions put to work in the classroom. Thank you!

Thank you,
Amber Chisholm